

The

APRIL No. 57

2/-

The Beatles

MONTHLY BOOK



The Beatles Book

The Beatles' Own Monthly Magazine

No. 57, APRIL 1968

EDITORIAL

Hi!

The way the Beatles are able to gauge the mood of the record buying public is quite incredible. They seem to be able to sense the sort of music that everyone is going to want to listen to months ahead. Perhaps, as many writers have said, they set the trends. But, no sooner do they seem to promote one form of music completely, then they change everything with the very next release.

"Lady Madonna" is a classic example of perfect Beatle timing. It's no secret that the song is mainly Paul's creation and he obviously sensed that the mood was changing and that the record buyers wanted something tougher, simpler and wilder. He's certainly given it them! But the great thing about the new Beatles' single is that it is not just a rehash of the old rock style. The sound is very original and Beatleistic. And no doubt hundreds of groups will be trying to develop it for their own use over the next few months!

I loved Ringo's reason for returning from his meditating visit to Rishikesh, "We missed the children" it shows the way Ringo has developed over the past five years. In 1962, he was very conscious of the fact that he was the "new boy"—and hadn't shared the tough times in Hamburg and Liverpool with the others. He joined when they were just starting to taste success and felt that he shouldn't push his own views as they weren't as important as John's, Paul's and George's. Now, Ringo is very much a law unto himself and his recent actions have proved it.

I can't wait to hear the next Beatles' L.P. What will it be like? The mind boggles. Will they go very Eastern and try and incorporate Indian sounds into all the backings of their new songs? Or, will they revert to the earlier, wilder type of Beatle song. Personally, I believe that they will come up once again with their usual marvellous cross-section of Beatle tunes no matter what incredible new ideas they think up for its title or cover—it will still be the same Beatles' magic inside.

There are more pics than ever before in this issue of the Beatles' Book. Our photographer was there at all the "Lady Madonna" sessions and I have tried to include as many different shots of the boys actually working on their new single as possible. We always do our best not to disturb the Beatles' concentration while they are working, so our cameraman has to dive under microphones and shoot from behind amplifiers to get close to the boys when their minds are completely occupied with their music.

I am afraid we're going to have to increase the price of the Beatles Book to 2/6 starting with the May issue. The price rise has been made necessary by the recent increases in printing and paper. The cost of subscriptions, however, will remain unchanged at £1-4s. for 12 issues and 12/- for 6.

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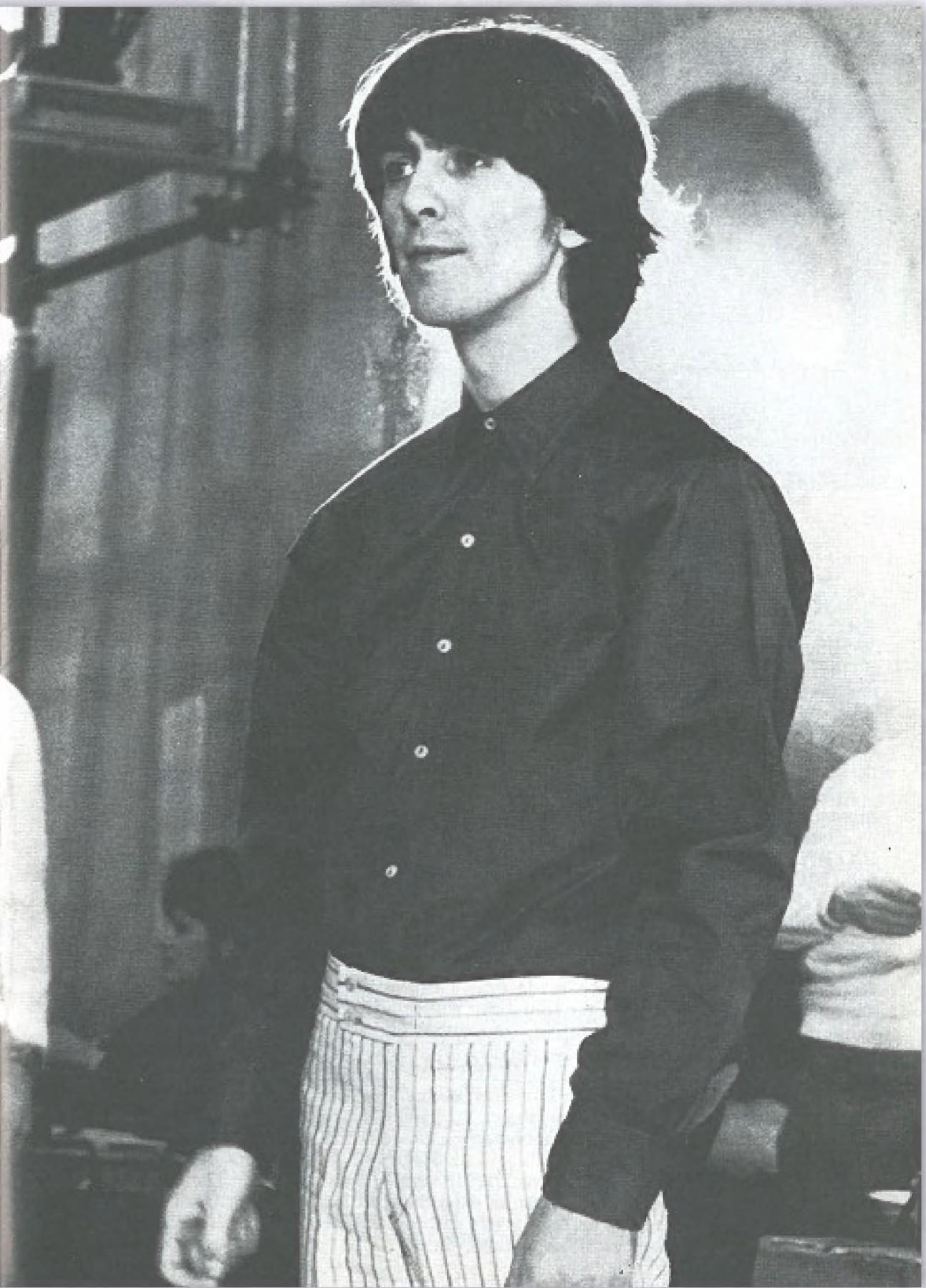
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Leslie Bryce and Mal Evans

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Johnny Dean Editor.





THE OFFICIAL *Beatles* FAN CLUB

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P.O. BOX No. 12
LIVERPOOL 1

Club Telephone Number:
051. 709 2410

APRIL NEWSLETTER

DEAR BEATLE PEOPLE,

I want to say a special and very sincere Thank You to the many readers who have written during the last few weeks to offer their good wishes in connection with my imminent marriage. Since the details of the wedding appeared on the news page of the March issue (to my great surprise NOW I know why Johnny Dean was asking all those questions! ! !) I've had hundreds of telephone calls and letters wishing Brian and me good luck.

The Big Day is April 4—so I won't be in the office for the next couple of weeks. If you don't get a quick reply from me to April letters or applications I hope you'll understand.

Members will be getting the Club's 1968 COLOUR SOUVENIR POSTER at any moment. As I write the posters are all ready to be mailed off. Hope you like them.

NON-MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE THAT WE'VE PRINTED THOUSANDS OF EXTRA PHOTO POSTERS AND WE SHALL BE GIVING THEM AWAY TO EVERY SINGLE PERSON WHO JOINS THE FAN CLUB BETWEEN NOW AND THE END OF JULY.

BEATLE BITS: Gift from MAUREEN to RINGO—a pair of braces with drawings of pink elephants on them! In India JOHN, PAUL and RINGO shot rolls and rolls of movie film during their stay at Maharishi's Transcendental Meditation academy. Resulting film material may be made into a professional movie production for public showing but that's something the four boys will decide when they've looked at it all While PAUL was in India his father, stepmother and little Ruth spent several weeks on holiday in Malta. In no time they were being inundated with requests to do local radio and TV interviews! Beatle People who knew that PATTIE'S birthday was March 17 sent greetings cards for her to the Fan Club offices. We'll see they are passed on to Pattie as soon as she and George return home On his return from India RINGO had sprouted another new beard and moustache. He tells me the others were letting their whiskers grow when he left them JOHN and the others not entirely happy about the finished recording of "Across The Universe", the song which The Beatles planned to give as their contribution towards an all-star charity LP album. Possible that one of the other items they recorded just before the trip to India will be substituted and a new version of "Across The Universe" made at a later date Great to see how well



The Beatles discuss "Lady Madonna" with George Martin at the start of the February recording session.

CILLA'S recording of PAUL'S song "Step Inside Love" is doing in the latest charts Joke from RINGO when he congratulated The Beatles' recording engineer GEOFF EMERICK, 22, on winning an American Grammy Award for helping to make "Sgt. Pepper" the year's Best Technically Engineered LP album: "Mind you, we ghost-engineered for him now and again on some of the sessions!" Answer to a question I'm anticipating I'll be asked by Fan Club Beatle People—the special colour photograph for the club's 1968 Souvenir Poster was taken IN THE BASEMENT CANTEEN at the EMI Studios in St. John's Wood!!! Artwork for musical trade press "Lady Madonna" advertisements done by PAUL BEATLES have high hopes of being able to start work on their third full-length cinema film in June. Final search for a good story undertaken by The Beatles' Apple Films executives at the beginning of March Home from India ahead of the others RINGO disappointed to find that Radio Caroline had gone off the air.

FAN CLUB NOTES: PLEASE, PLEASE don't forget that ALL MEMBERS should write their MEMBERSHIP NUMBER on the outside of their envelope whenever they write to the fan club—if the number doesn't appear (top left-hand corner) a reply cannot be promised OVERSEAS FAN CLUB BRANCH change—In Japan MISS KOKO HATA, SHOCKHIKU, 1-13-5 TSUKIJI, CHOU-KU, TOKYO, takes over from Tetsusaburo Shimoyama. British Beatle People who would like to start up pen-friendships with Japanese branch members should write to Koko.

CLUB SUBSCRIPTION RENEWALS: Members whose 1968-1969 subscriptions are due for payment this month will get a Renewal Form and Printed Reply Envelope along with their Souvenir Photo Poster. PLEASE REMEMBER that although new members must now pay seven and sixpence, all existing Beatle People are being allowed one more year at the old rate.

That's all I have room for. See you here in the May issue.

Tarrah For Now,

National Secretary of The Official Beatles Fan Club



RINGO:

What will he do next?

Ringo, in 1963, was something of an enigma. And he did very little to change this initial impression during the early Beatles rise to success.

When plans were announced for the boys' first major film, "A Hard Days Night", everyone assumed that it would be either Paul or John who would shine forth best from the cinema screen. John was already well known for his witty answers and crazy antics in almost every situation. How could he fail to make an impact on the big screen. And Paul was regarded by every photographer, who had managed to shoot off a roll of film at the boys, as the most photogenic pop star of the decade. No matter how he looked in the flesh, he always came up beautifully on film—surely, he would be the outstanding face in any film.

But, to everyone's surprise and delight it was Ringo who emerged from those frantic weeks of shooting as a screen personality.

CAPABILITIES

The odd thing is that Ringo never shows his capabilities off screen. He usually assumes a fairly dead-pan expression whilst those cool, but kindly, blue eyes look at you under arched brows as he thinks out his answers to your questions. He has always had a very dry sense of humour and his "mistake sentences" have produced many of the Beatles' best song titles and sayings. "A Hard Days Night" was supposed to have been coined by Ringo although, of course, as many Beatle people wrote in to point out at the time, John did use the expression in his first book.

"Help!" was in a way built around Ringo's acting ability. Dick Lester gave him plenty to do because he decided that Ringo was most capable of carrying the acting role.

It's only fair to John, Paul and George to point out that they have always had more to do than Ringo. Once his drum tracks have been recorded for any particular song (unless he's doing the vocal, which isn't very often) he has time to spare. Also, as he doesn't write any of the Beatle songs, this, again, leaves him free to do other things, while John, Paul and George are hard at work.

Recently, of course, he has taken on a major role in "Candy", which will be released within the next few months, and also made a rather revolutionary appearance on the Cilla Black Show. Revolutionary when you remember that the Beatles have not appeared on the television screen in any real way whatsoever for over two years. I mean, of course, live. They've done regular filmed appearances coinciding

with new releases on "Top Of The Pops" and other music shows and George and John talked to David Frost about meditation on his late night show, but none of the boys have made a proper appearance and done a complete act, let alone a variety act for a long time.

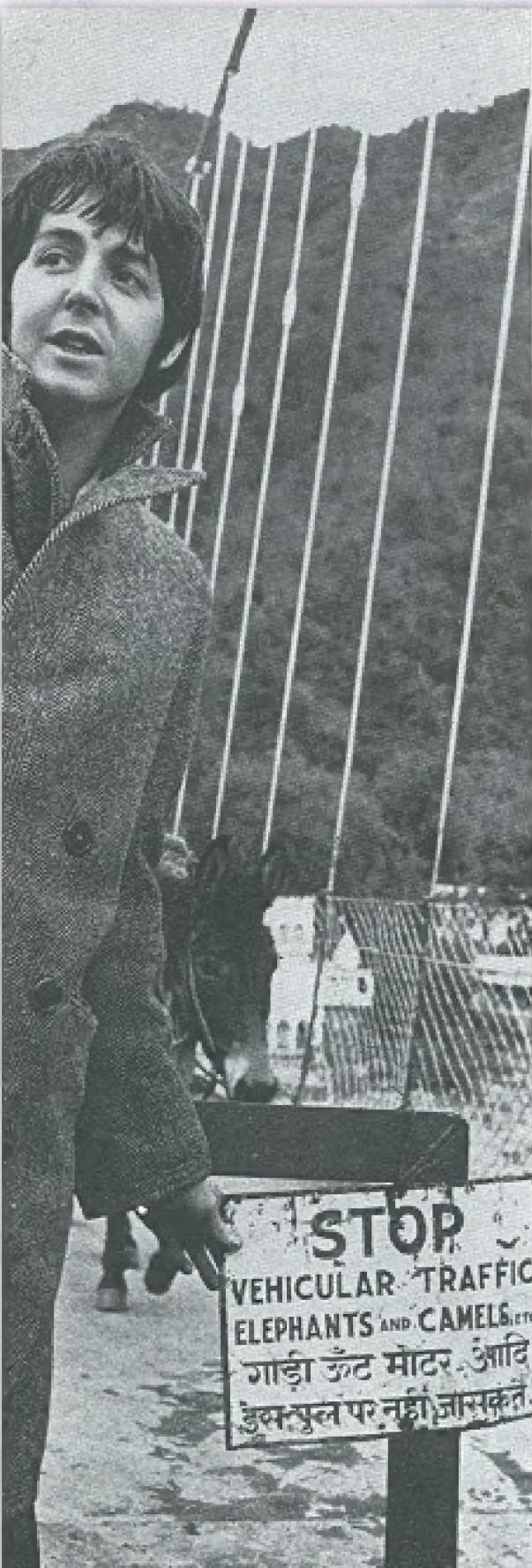
Any big star who does step out like Ringo has done takes a tremendous risk. If he makes a mess of it he can damage his whole career. And, when one thinks of top recording stars who want to opt out of even the Top Ten race, it must have taken a lot of guts for Ringo to have accepted Cilla's invitation.

But, as we all know, he succeeded completely. He obviously was completely unafraid and his very engaging and friendly personality came through to you the whole time he was on the screen.

It's odd when you look at the long list of names who stepped into the limelight at the same time as the Beatles in 1962/3. Who would have thought out of all those new faces, that the most successful girl, and one of the few who would really get to the top in five years, would have been that little girl with the ugly-pretty face, Cilla Black. And remembering the early appearances of the Beatles, it's equally surprising that Ringo, the ugly-handsome Beatle, should emerge as the one most likely to be seen on our television and film screens in the future.



Ringo doing his ventriloquist act with Cilla Black as his dummy on her TV show.



A TRIBUTE TO BEATLE JOHN

Written by: Mary Abbott & Charlene Bass

TO BE SUNG TO THE TUNE OF 'BIG BAD JOHN'

Every mornin' at the studio you can see him arrive;
He stands five-foot eleven and weighs
one-fifty-five: (?)
Kinda broad at the shoulders and narrow at the hip,
And everybody knows that you can't outwit
Beatle John.

His fans don't bother John when he's home:
'Cause they know he and his wife want to be all alone;
He doesn't say much, he's not quiet or shy;
He says what he thinks, and he's quite a guy.
My man John.

When John grew older he bought a guitar:
Paul joined to form the Nurn Twins which got
only as far,
As another regrouping, and George joined up, too;
So John and the Moondogs came into view:
Moondoggy John.

The Moondogs were good, but the name wasn't
quite right;
So while in Hamburg, they changed it one night:
They became the Beatles, and all were glad,
'Cause this was the best name they'd ever had
Thought Beatle John.

When the fans ask who the leader was
The other three said it was John, because;
He started the group, and so why not?
He could answer any question right on the spot:
Leader John.

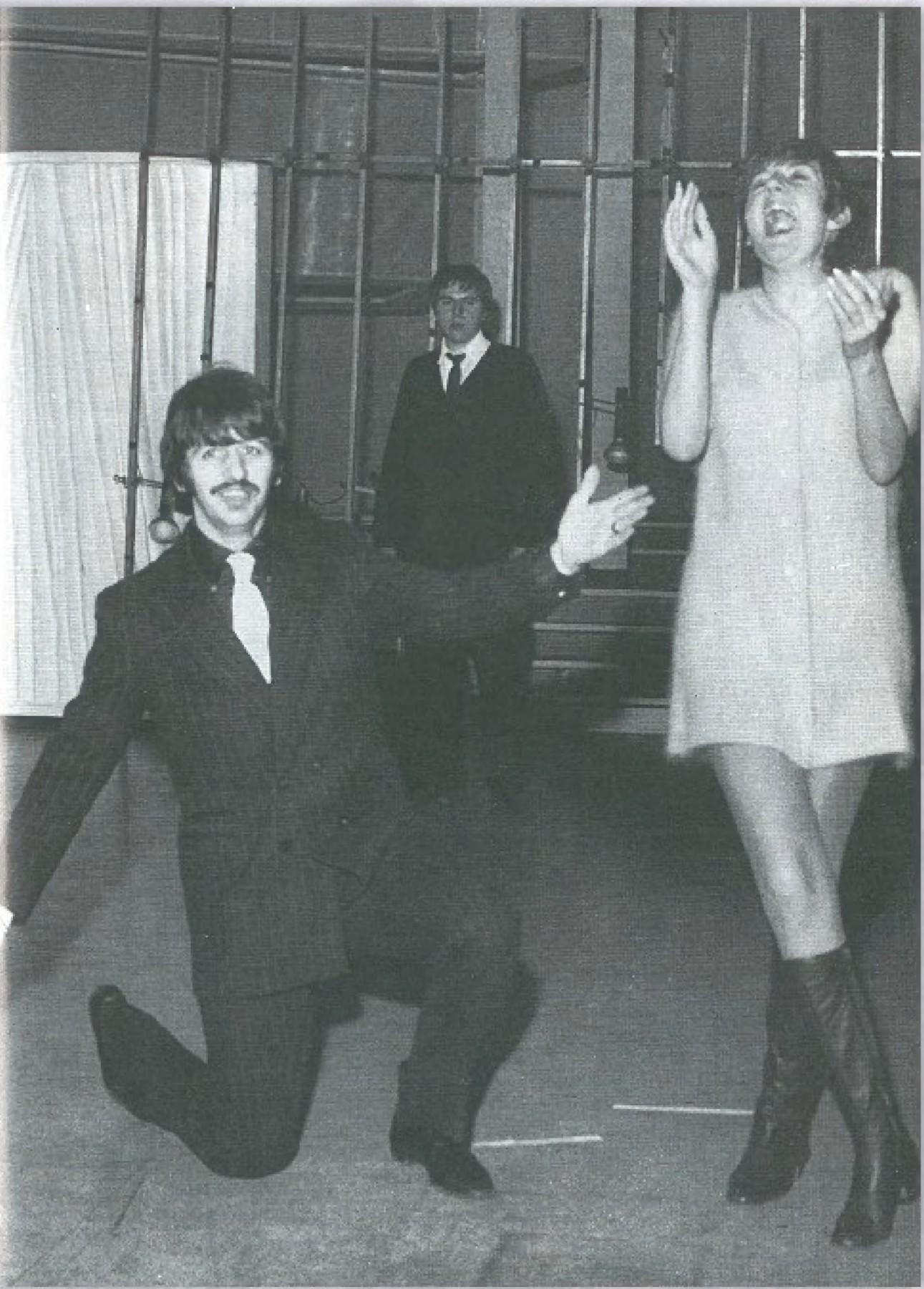
Then came the day the Beatles wanted to part,
But John still knew deep down in his heart:
That someday soon, he knew they'd catch on,
But he just couldn't tell 'em about how long:
Persistent John.

Through the dirt and the smoke of the Cavern place,
Walked a distinguished man with a well-known face;
He owned the record store down the street,
But this is the first time he'd chanced to meet
Beatle John.

And with all of their hope they began again;
This time with Brian Epstein managing them:
But still the Beatles weren't complete,
They needed a new drummer in the drummer's seat:
Troubled John.

Then they remembered a drummer they'd seen;
He was hittin' it big on the Hamburg scene:
Then one day they called him, I guess,
And ask him to join, and he said "yes",
To Beatle John.

Now that the Beatle's fame is spread wide,
What did our boys Paul, George, and Ringo decide?
Well, to stay together as long as fame lasts,
And still be friends after it's past
With Beatle John.





NEW SINGLE SESSIONS

by MAL EVANS & NEIL ASPINALL

FIRST DETAILED ACCOUNT OF THE RECORDING SESSIONS WHICH PRODUCED "LADY MADONNA", "THE INNER LIGHT" & "ACROSS THE UNIVERSE"

Been busy weeks for both of us just recently. A long trip to India (Mal) and a visit to New York (Neil). Lots of Apple planning to be done in America and the most convenient time to get on with that was while all four Beatles were up at the Maharishi's meditation academy overlooking the famous River Ganges at the foot of the Himalayan mountains.

Meanwhile everything was nicely timed for the release of The Beatles' new single a couple of weeks ago.

LAST BITS

The recording sessions took place early in February. Just before that George finished the last bits of work on his "Wonderwall" film music—using The Fool playing flutes and Tommy Reilly playing mouth organ.

By Saturday February 3 all four Beatles were ready to go ahead with recordings for a single. First new number to be tackled was "Lady

Madonna", Paul having done most of the words and music for this item. At the first session George and John put their two guitars through one amplifier while Ringo played drums. Then Paul added bass guitar and his own voice.

SURPRISE

MORE THAN A FEW BEATLE PEOPLE ARE SURPRISED TO KNOW THAT PAUL IS THE SOLO SINGER ON "LADY MADONNA". ALTHOUGH THIS IS AN OUT AND OUT ROCKER, THE SOUND OF PAUL'S SINGING IS VERY DIFFERENT FROM EARLIER THINGS HE DID LIKE "LONG TALL SALLY" OR "I'M DOWN", THE REAL OLD SCREAMIN' RAYERS! IN FACT SOME PEOPLE HAVE BEEN CONVINCED THE SINGER IS RINGO. IT ISN'T!

The addition of saxophones to "Lady Madonna" was a last-minute decision on Paul's part. Four top jazz-type session musicians were called in to play sax—Ronnie Scott, Harry Klein,



John works out a new idea on the piano.

Bill Povey and Bill Jackman.

All the piano you hear on "Lady Madonna" is played by Paul. There's quite a bit of vocal backing which sounds as though The Beatles might have used the old comb and paper combination. Actually they just cupped their hands

John, George and Paul recording a tricky harmony backing.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

round their mouths to create this effect. "A bit like The Mills Brothers used to do" commented George Martin who is good at remembering things like that!

CHARITY LP.

On Sunday February 4 another new number was started—one which was NOT used on the single. It is "Across The Universe" which is going to appear as one track on a special charity LP album. It was for this session that Paul invited two teenage girl fans to provide extra vocal accompaniment. "Across The Universe" has some very high bits in it so Paul went out of the front door of the EMI Studios in St. John's Wood and chatted up the

bunch of Beatle People who were waiting there in the rain. Eventually he chose Lizzie Bravo a 16-year-old who came from Rio de Janeiro and is hoping to become an actress plus Gayleen Pease, a 17-year-old who is studying for her 'A' level exams this summer. Lizzie lives in Maida Vale and Gayleen lives in Stoke Newington, both just a few miles from St. John's Wood. It's the first time fans have joined The Beatles in a recording session. The two girls had to repeat over and over the line of lyrics which goes "nothing's going to change my world".

SITAR

Incidentally George plays sitar on "Across The Universe", the lead singer is John and Ringo plays drums

and coke tin! When the session was finished we all went round to Paul's house and got one of those dial-a-meal suppers delivered!

RINGO'S TV

There wasn't much The Beatles could do in the recording studio for the next couple of days because Ringo was all tied up at the BBC doing his guest appearance in Cilla's television show. Mal was there with him and remembers having to go to great lengths to get hold of three precious TV show tickets for three Beatle People Ringo had met at the stage door and felt sorry for because it was raining hard!

On the Tuesday itself (February 6) everyone sent funny telegrams to Ringo at the BBC Television Theatre. They read: "Come home Jim. All is forgiven. Love. Your Buddies And Pals.", "We will be watching luv Herbert & Family" and "Big brothers are watching and wishing you well. Love from Your Big Brothers."

VOICE ADDED

Meanwhile George was able to add his voice to "The Inner Light". The rest of that number was already completed because George had recorded all the accompaniment out in India at the EMI Studios in Bombay. A couple of days later he got John and Paul to add harmony behind his voice but that was all that had to be done to finish "The Inner Light".

At the beginning of the following week George and John were due to leave for



Paul, John and George park themselves in a corner while they go over the words of "Lady Madonna".



ABOVE: Paul, Geoffrey Emerick, Spike Milligan, George Martin, George, John and Peter Brown in the control room of EMI's No. 2 Studio.

BETWEEN: John pictured in the window of an outhouse in the grounds of his Weybridge home.



India with Cynthia and Pattie. So it was time for a final decision about the two sides to go on the March single. Everyone agreed from the word go that it would be nice for George to have something on a single—he's never done so before. And "Lady Madonna" was an obvious choice for the main side of the record. That left "Across The Universe" as an album track.

TWO ORGANS

Some more work was done on "Across The Universe" before everybody flew off to the East. On Thursday February 8 John and producer George Martin added the sound of two organs, George played a favourite pair of maracas ("the ones



Paul tries out a different effect on the organ.

with moustaches painted on them!") and Paul added extra piano to the end.

The last session before India took place on Sunday February 11—and we had a lot of cameramen in from Apple Films to make the

film clips The Beatles wanted to have available for TV use here and in America to coincide with the release of the "Lady Madonna" single. But the day wasn't set aside for filming—an entirely new number was rehearsed and recorded that day—one of the fastest session jobs The Beatles have accomplished in recent years. The number was John's, one called "Hey Bulldog" made specially for the soundtrack of the colour cartoon film "Yellow Submarine" which we shall be seeing in the cinemas a bit later this year.

NEXT MONTH

Complete Report
on Beatles visit
to India

Have you missed any of these issues?

If you did, and you would like to make up your collection, just send us a Postal Order for 2/- for each copy you want and we'll get them off to you as soon as possible.

U.S.A. and Canada 50 cents each; or three for 1 dollar.

Send P.O.s and details to Beatle Book Back Issues, 36-38 Westbourne Grove, London W.2, England. (We regret that Issues 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 15, 19, 26 and 27 are now completely out of stock and CANNOT be supplied.)



Right: The very distinctive sound of the Beatles has been based on the vocal work of Paul, John and George. Here they are recording the vocal for "Lady Madonna".









LETTERS from Beatle PEOPLE

WINNER OF FREE SUBSCRIPTION

Dear Johnny,

I have been a Beatles fan for about 5 years and probably will be for another 5 years. I love them and their music is getting better all the time, not that it really needs to 'cos they are so far ahead of all the rest! Some people are criticising the Beatles because of their beliefs in transcendental meditation. John and George must be congratulated on their excellent interview with David Frost as I now understand what it is all about. The only thing that ever worried me about the Beatles was that they didn't have a religious belief. Now I am very happy that they have found something.

I have been reading B.M. for years and have all of them from No. 6 onwards. Could someone help me get Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 to complete my collection.

Yours Beatifully,

Janine Short,
1 Victoria St.,
Hamilton,
Victoria, 3300,
Australia.

P.S.—Love to John, George, Paul, Ringo.

P.P.S.—Thanks for the pics of Julian a few months ago.

Dear Ringo,

Having just seen Cilla's show, and you!—You were just great—I can't put it into words. Your tap-dancing bit just knocked me out man. If this show is anything to go by 'Cundy' will be the film of the year!!!

I repeat—film-of-the-year!!

As I said, I can't put into words how marvellous you were!

All my Beatle loving,

Luv,
Lls Emberton.
Hays.
Sedgehill,
Shaftesbury,
Dorset.

Dearest Beatles,

A friend of mine and I desperately need your magazine's and it's readers' support.

After visiting the elderly often in residential homes, to my horror, it strikes me that many of them will meet their ends, long before necessary, merely due to boredom. So we'd like to introduce some ideas in order to help occupy their very dull lives.

We decided that in knitting squares etc., they can not only occupy themselves, but all profits and finished products will go to charity. But PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE, if anyone has any other good practical ideas, wool or old useful bits of material etc. could they let us have them. We'd be delighted to receive them at the above address (or phone).

Here's hoping you'll help by printing this.

We are strongly backing the BEATLES, HOPE AND BRITAIN,

Two faithful fans,

Gillian Baws c/o above address
and Jennifer Harcup, (both 17),
66 High Street,
Gravesend, Kent.
Phone Gravesend (OGR4) 66403

Dear Beatles,

I just want to let you know how much pleasure you've given me the past few years with your music. I don't know how many times you've come to my rescue when I've felt depressed and 'down'. Many times, in such moods, I've gone into the sitting room and played a few (relevant to the mood) songs like 'Penny Lane', 'Good Day Sunshine', 'Hello Good-bye', 'Fixing a Hole' (there are so many more that I'd better not put them down or I'd be wearing my pen out), and come out of that room in a completely different frame of mind—Happy with the world again, you know? (Not to mention the enjoyment they give me when I'm already in a happy mood).

When I'm in a 'dreamy' frame of mind, I could listen to songs like 'Day in the Life', 'Strawberry Fields', 'Baby's in Black', 'Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds', 'Within You, Without You', etc. for hours.

Without wanting to sound like some sort of crank, I'd like to say that without your music my life would be that bit emptier.

Hoping to hear much more from you in the future,

Yours sincerely,
Dave Moody, (136966),
32 Knutsford Drive,
Belfast 14,
N. Ireland.

Dear John,

Just a wee note to thank you for 5 glorious years of Beatles.

5 years of fabulous songs, 5 years of 4 great fellows, 5 years of you!

The pop-scene was nothing till The Beatles appeared. Now 5 years later, The fabulous Beatles have achieved a lot—not only for themselves but other groups too (Thanks for the Grapefruit!)

I know since you first came out you've been criticized—and still are being criticized—but now you can take it—or leave it.

Thanks again for 5 glorious Beatle years.

All my Love (Lennon-Love that is).

Lillian Craig,

51 Lochgoan Ave.

Dumbarton,

Glasgow, W.S.

P.S.—Although I was only 10 when you came out I loved you—now I'm 15 I still love you

THANK U VERY MUCH.

Dear Johnny,

I've just been watching Cilla's show and I would like to congratulate Ringo on his fantastic appearance, he really was great and even my Dad was impressed and that's saying something.

Admittedly Ringo up till now was not my favourite BEATLE but having seen him tonight my mind has changed completely and I'm longing to see him in the film "CANDY".

I've never written a letter to you before but I'm keeping my fingers crossed about this one!

Luv

Carol Henderson,

Manor Farm,

Notgrove,

Nr. Cheltenham,

Glos.

P.S. Mum loves him too.

P.P.S. Please give all me lov to John and Cyn, Paul and Jane, George and Pattie, Maureen, Julian, Jason and Zak XXXXXXXX JOHN XXXXXXXX RINGO XXXXXXX.

Magical Mystery Tour

. GREAT, FANTASTIC

Dear Paul, (or Johnny)

A couple of months back a letter was printed in the Beatles Monthly about a girl's meeting with your fabulous brother.

Well yesterday (10th) I had the same experience. I went to see them at the Elizabeth Hall. I thoroughly enjoyed the show, I thought it was screamingly funny. The best comedy I've seen for years. After the show I decided to try my luck at getting the Scaffolds autographs.

I went around to the artists entrance. John Gorman was in the foyer talking to a lady. A kind man showed me around to the dressing room when I told him what I'd wanted.

Another man informed us that the boys were on the stage rehearsing. That was when Roger appeared. We (my two young sisters were with me) talked to him and he gave us his autograph. There at the end of the passage a tall, handsome figure appeared. It was Mike. I was so overcome I could hardly speak. He chatted to us and signed our programmes. Only half conscious we started back to the entrance. Mike had forgotten to give my sister her pen back. He popped his head around the door, wreathed in smiles and handed it to her.

Mike was so unbelievably friendly and so immensely charming it is going to take me some time to get over it. Please thank him for being so kind, Paul. Now I've met him, I know that some day my dream will come true, and I will meet you.

I'd also like to congratulate Ringo on his outstanding performance on Cilla's show. I, like everyone I've spoken to, think he was an absolute knock-out. Surely, isn't this a partial answer to your T.V. performance problem? All four of you are so irresistably funny you could so very easily make more appearances like Ringo did last week. Please do.

Well I will have to finish now.

Thanks for listening to me.

LUV

Jo

18, Cranborne Ave.,
Norwood Green,
Southall,
Middx.

P.S. Beatles Monthly is the greatest.





ABOVE AND BELOW: Early '63 and '64 pics of the boys on stage.





by Billy Shepherd and Johnny Dean

Every so often, some of the mealy-minded critics come out with attacks on certain Beatle songs . . . maybe just a word or two in the lyrics, maybe the whole idea of the songs themselves. But the Beatles, through their long years at the top, have learned that there's always somebody willing to knock . . . and they've also realised that they can't please all of the people all the time.

But generally speaking they resist the temptation to attack other artists' records. The Beatles are often prepared to put in a word to help somebody else carve out a career, but they're not half as keen on putting in a BAD word.

Even so, sometimes even their patience is stretched to breaking point. As with a certain pop record called "The Ballad Of The Green Berets", which was a sizeable hit by one Sgt. Barry Sadler, an American serviceman, just two years ago this month. All four Beatles were asked for their opinion of this material about the Vietnam war . . . and all said it was "terrible".

Which surprised some people. And angered others. Paul said it was a dreadful record. Ringo said he hoped it would blow up in flames. John regarded it as being blatant American propaganda. And George said he couldn't understand the people who had bought it and made it a number one in America.

BEATLES GIVE OPINIONS

So some of the knockers started in knocking again. "The Beatles should keep out of this controversy," they said. "Anyway who are THEY to judge?" Which is ridiculous. The boys had been specifically asked for their opinions. As four intelligent blokes, it would have been silly for them to say: "We don't know" or, alternatively, claim that they couldn't think of ANYTHING to say.

This was the month when a pop magazine ran a special version of a general election. They asked readers to vote for a

Pop Prime Minister . . . and their readers actually voted for an American, Scott Walker. But running him very close at the time was John Lennon. John was flattered because it sort of put him one-up, in a friendly way, over the other Beatles but he made it clear that generally speaking politics was not for him.

"There is so much lying and half-truth about politics," he said. "I've been spending some of my time off reading books by Aldous Huxley and I can only say that I never realised before just what a weird and bad world politics really is."

But what was occupying John's mind most in this April-showery month two years ago was getting some new numbers on disc. They all spent two clear days in the EMI studios after Easter, looking out for the right song to use as a follow-up single to "We Can Work It Out" and "Day Tripper", which had been in the top spot for four weeks. John and Paul had been busy on their writing . . . and estimated that they had fifteen different songs as "possibles" for the new single.

While the boys recorded, Brian Epstein was busy fixing another trip to the States—and one of the dates was the Coliseum at Memphis, Tennessee, the home-town of Elvis Presley. This got the guessers going . . . what were the chances of the boys meeting up with Elvis?—would Elvis go along to see them perform?—would the Beatles record in his studios there? Early in the April under review, Brian Epstein actually went to the States to look over the studios and this was at the special request of the

boys. But he returned to say: "There are problems about recording there and it looks as if they can't be overcome by August when the boys make the journey."

But he came back with news that delighted the Beatles. He said: "There are dozens of top-line jazz musicians in America who are literally falling over themselves to record Beatle songs. It's fine when people like Andy Williams, and top ballad singers do this... but I know it brings great satisfaction to the boys to know that top-line jazzmen find their melodies so good."

Dick James, Beatles' publisher, also came up with some interesting information. He explained that while the Beatles story really started in Hamburg, the Germans had been rather slow to pick up Beatle material for recording. "But now," he said, "their composers are finding it better to use English lyrics rather than German, in terms of world sales, so the performers there are rushing to bring out their own versions of Beatle songs."

If anything turned up, April two years ago, to cause a problem rather than a triumph it was only that poor John was getting very fed up with all the day-trippers who spent weekends at his lavish home at Weybridge. He explained to us how some people were virtually camping out in the grounds... how they brought along packets of sandwiches and primus stoves and made it look more like a fairground than a private residence.

LONGER RECORDING SESSIONS

But weekends were the only days John was likely to be in residence. The planned two days of recordings stretched into two weeks and then another week was added. The material was available but Beatle recording techniques were getting more and more complicated with each session. John recalled: "Back in the days of 'Love Me Do' and so on, it was all pretty straightforward. We just did what the technicians and George Martin told us—and we managed to get a disc finished in no time. But now we've all got our own ideas on what should be added to the sound and it can take two days to get one side right."

Outside the EMI studios, at all hours of the day and night, stood the loyal fans. Some

girls travelled twenty minutes by bus, there and back, from school... to SPEND twenty minutes at lunch-time in the hope of seeing a Beatle going in or out.

Also busy in the studios for the first time in April 1966 was Paul's brother, Mike. Though it's only recently that the Scaffold have hit the chart scene, through their "Thank U Very Much", they actually started recording two years ago.

WINNERS' CONCERT

But back to the fabulous four themselves. Technically you could say they'd spent the month in hiding, because of the panics of recording. In fact, they made their first public appearance of the year at the end of April at the Poll-winners concert at Wembley Pool. And this was a sensation, judged from every point of view.

They stood there, bathed in a spotlight and dressed in jet black, and John opened the proceedings by singing "I Feel Fine" with enormous spirit, all the while wearing a garish pair of brown sun-glasses. They were peppered by sweets—Ringo neatly caught one and slipped it into his mouth. That brought a crescendo of screams. They did "Nowhere Man", "Daytripper", "If I Needed Someone", "I'm Down". A tremendous climax to a tremendous performance.

As they rushed off-stage through a tunnel, the boys mopped at sweat-wet foreheads and said: "There's nothing like going on in front of a really big audience. It's like a little break coming after all those weeks locked away in the studios." And Paul said: "We'd have gone on all night, honest!"

This was when they told us that the next single had been fixed as "Paperback Writer", backed with "Rain". This was when they told us, to the disappointment of millions, that there was now no chance at all of getting their third movie on the production schedule during 1966.

Of course that movie has not yet materialised. But a lot of in-person things did happen during the May of 1966. We'll tie them up with things as they are today—in next month's magazine. Make it a hard, firm date.

John meditates on a bench in his greenhouse.





ABOVE: A vocal practice. BELOW: Tea break for organ repairs.



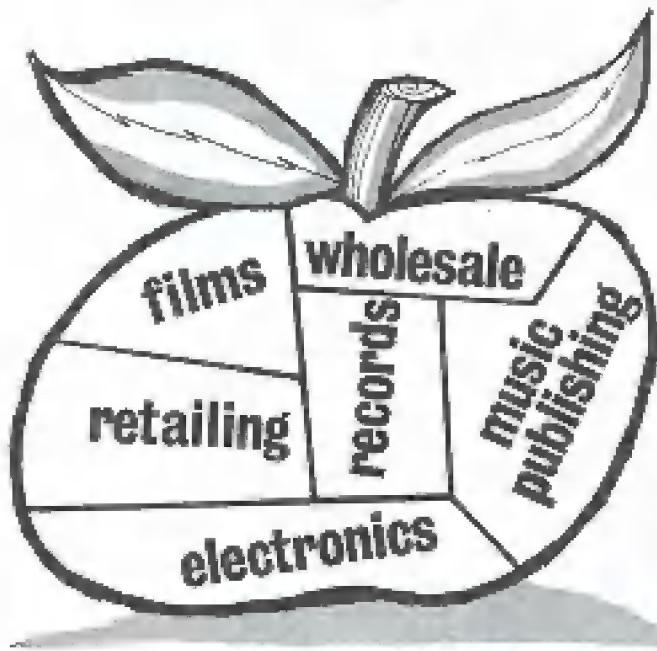
It's Apple Blossom Time in Beatleland. Apple first appeared before the public eye last summer when the back of the "Sgt. Pepper" LP sleeve carried the words "Cover by MC Productions and The Apple".

By December, Apple Music, the publishing firm headed by The Beatles' Liverpool mate Terry Doran, was well under way. The same month the Apple shop at 94 Baker Street opened to the public, the book which went with the "Magical Mystery Tour" EP records contained a drawing of Apple's trademark and the line "Apple Presents . . ." whilst the 1968 Christmas record sent out to fan club Beatle People had on its sleeve the bit about this being "another little bite of The Apple".

CLOSE FRIEND

Terry Doran is just one of many close friends involved in the network of Apple companies. With Apple Films there is Tony Bramwell, at the Apple shop you'll find Pete Shotton. And at the offices of Apple Corps, the headquarters of the entire operation, are Peter Brown, Alastair Taylor, Neil Aspinall and Mal Evans, all Liverpool folk who have been connected in one way or another with the Beatles' progress since earliest days.

Why **APPLE** in the first place? That was Paul's suggestion because he felt it was one of the very first words



young people learn. A is for Apple . . . it's right there at the beginning of most basic alphabet books. They haven't put B is for Beatles on Page Two just yet but who knows! . . .

Without being too complicated about it, the simple explanation of Apple is that it represents a new way of putting The Beatles' wealth to work. In the past John, Paul, George and Ringo have let wise old men of money invest on their behalf in gilt-edgeds, safe and secure investments promising certain returns. Apple is The Beatles' decision to put at least a few great chunks of their accumulated fortunes into things that please them and people they have faith in, personally supervised business ventures they would like to see do well instead of impersonal things like steel and oil.

Just because so many of their Liverpool buddies and pals are involved you should not get the idea that Apple is nothing more than a Jobs

For The Boys set-up. On the contrary it is designed to use the talents of clever men and women who have flairs for doing particular things. That's why The Beatles decided they'd like to let The Fool have a hand in the designing of the Apple shop. Then there's electronic genius Alex Mardas who is already preparing exciting inventions for Apple Electronics to produce.

MANY SLICES

How many slices of Apple are already operational? Apart from the Apple shop and Apple's music publishing company, there are Apple Films, Apple Retailing, Apple Wholesale and Apple Records. Derek Taylor and Mal Evans are both involved with Apple Records for which George Harrison produced several recording studio sessions before he went off to India. Apple Records will be specially interesting to pop people because it is to be a pro-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 31



BEATLE Pen Pals

(All addresses are in England unless otherwise stated)

John Temperley (19), 52 First Street, Horden, Peterlee, Co. Durham, wants p.p. anywhere.

Linda Sleg (16), 24 Haig Road, Hamilton, Victoria 3300, Australia, wants p.p.s anywhere.

Elizabeth Lindstrom (16), Articgatan 20 Goteborg, nf. Sweden, wants p.p.s in England.

Lena Phils (16), Box 734, Folkets, Sweden, wants French boy p.p.s same age.

Dan Mincu (17), B.D. Constructilor No. 8, S.C.A. Apt 2, Bucharest 17, Romania, wants p.p. anywhere.

Josephine Logan (15), 198 Pouchester Road, Thornwood, Nottingham, wants boy p.p.s anywhere.

Diane Mansell (15), 3 Knight Street, Netherfield, Nottingham, wants boy p.p.s anywhere.

Berit Andersson (16), Box 730, Sollerön, Sweden, wants English and German p.p.s.

Susan Burding (14), Branekyrkag 72, 611 Stockholm, Sweden, wants boy and girl p.p.s in England.

Isabella Honerud (15), Nyphovshavet 67 v, Stockholm, Sweden, wants American and English boy p.p.s.

Marie France Pauwels (18), 88b Avenue Houssier, Brussels 18, Belgium, wants boy p.p.s anywhere.

Sherly Pringle (14), 152 Low Road, Halton, Near Lancaster, Lancs, wants p.p.s everywhere.

Michelle Parisee (17), 795 McMillan Avenue, 6, Winnipeg 9, Manitoba, Canada, wants p.p.s in England.

Anne Marie Bengts (16), Box 67, Sollerön, Sweden, wants a boy p.p. from France.

Marina Raskup (17), St. Jakobithurn 56, 5412 Salzburg, Austria, wants p.p.s everywhere.

Beth Ann Higgs (12), 3225 Oakdale Avenue, Dayton, Ohio 45420, U.S.A., wants p.p.s anywhere.

Claudine Driancourt, Ecole Des Guerres, Ploughmagoor 22, Guingamp, France, wants p.p.s anywhere.

Nicole Issoe, C.E.T. La. Chesnaye, 22, Guingamp, France, wants p.p.s anywhere.

Tita Fontana (15), Via Oderi Visconti 14, 20137 Milano, Italy, wants p.p. in London.

Evelyn Langam (20), 37 Rue De Passy, Paris 16c, France, wants p.p. in England.

Sanea Sueiki (17), 10 Higashida Kawasaki-shi, Kanagawa-ken, Japan, wants p.p.s anywhere.

Anna Fridrike Kleppossej (19), 74 Reykjavik, Iceland, wants p.p. in London and Paris.

Nienke Crabbé, 10 Lange Gracht Leefdaal, Belgium, wants p.p.s age 16+.

Kay Perman (17), 15832 Chatsworth Street, Granada Hills, California, U.S.A., wants p.p.s everywhere.

Hollo Ladislai, Sir Tasso Nr. 60, Timisoara, Romania, wants p.p.s anywhere.

Nadia Bacchi (17), Via Val Lagarina 27, 20157 Milan, Italy, wants French and English boy p.p.s.

Inez Jovanovic (16), Belgrade Pavla Popi 4, Yugoslavia, wants p.p. in London or Liverpool.

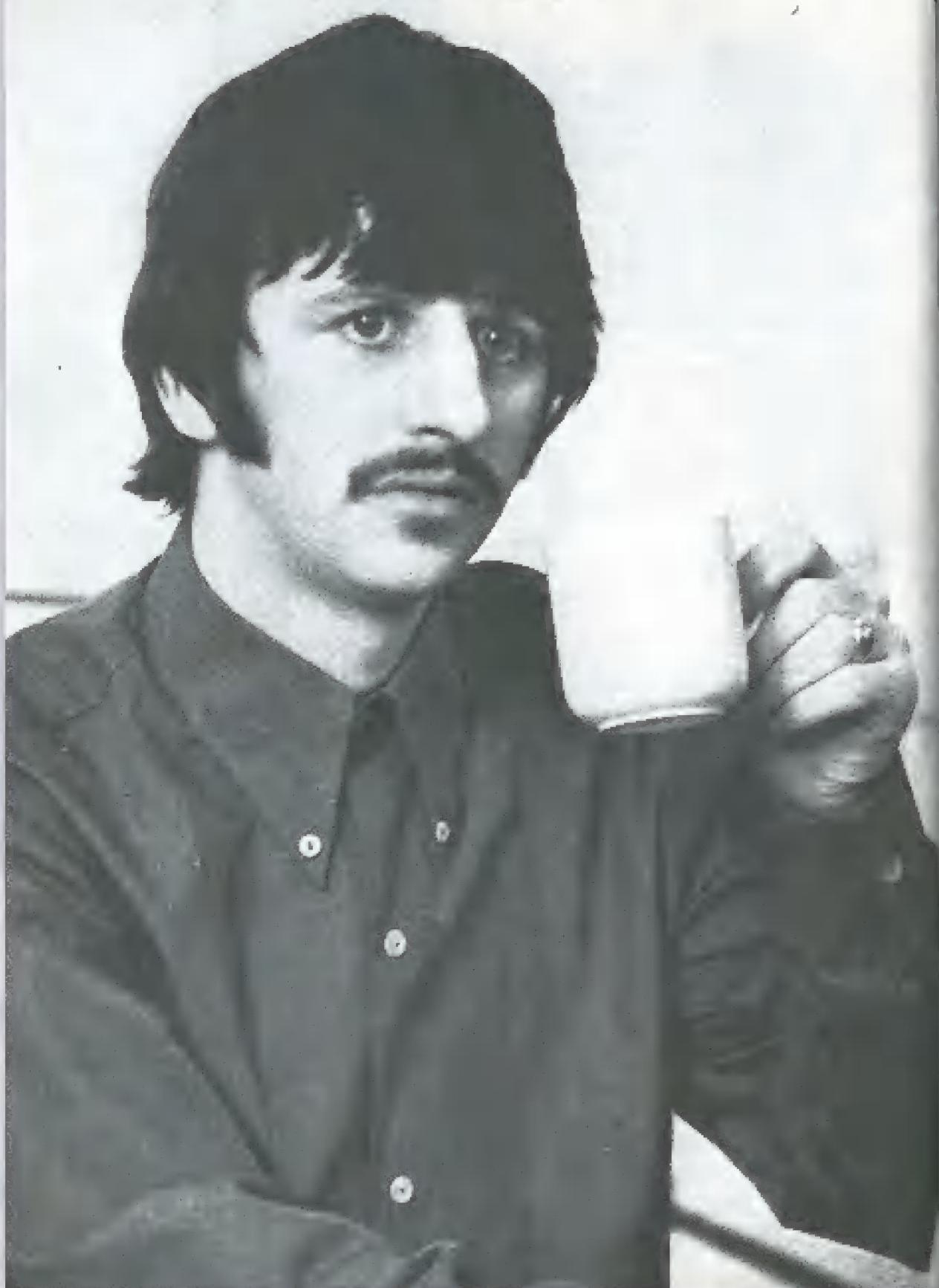
Norman Shanks (22), 2 Yewville Road, Neddington, Cape Town, South Africa, wants p.p.s.

Erllyn Rackham (17), 32 Alperton Street, Queens Park, London W.10, wants p.p.s everywhere.

Serena Holman (13), Box Cole, Shipston-on-Stour, Warwickshire, wants p.p.s everywhere. All letters unanswered.

Edith Macbean (15), Whitcroft, Shipston-on-Stour, Warwickshire, wants p.p.'s everywhere.
 Sean Paisley (14), Flat 8, 339 Lubnake Grove, London W.10, wants p.p.'s anywhere.
 Ingrid Hansen (14), Lillelindalsvej 14, 2700 Brh., Copenhagen, Denmark, wants p.p.'s everywhere.
 Trudy Veenbar (19), Hoendiepstraat 52, Amsterdam, wants p.p.'s everywhere.
 Miriam Hambrick (18), Prof. Tafslaan 11 bv, Amsterdam, Centrum, Holland, wants p.p.'s in Scotland and Ireland.
 Dolly Heuveling Van Beek (17), Borsenburgstraat 17, Amsterdam, Holland, wants p.p.'s in Scotland and Ireland.
 Diane Hildage (11), 7 Midland Drive, Cheadle Hulme, Cheadle, Cheshire, wants p.p.'s in America.
 Linda Henderson (13), 100 Boileau Road, Ealing, London W.5, wants p.p.'s in America.
 Kathryn Mianer (13), 5 Cedar Lane, Frimley, Camberley, Surrey, wants p.p.'s in America.
 Michael Gradda (16), 47 College Street, New South Wales 2750, Australia, wants p.p.'s anywhere.
 Liz Shaw (13), 6 Van Dyke Road, Colchester, Essex, wants p.p.'s in France, Switzerland or Germany, boys.
 Sue Roberts (13), 41 Baden Powell Drive, Colchester, Essex, wants p.p.'s in France.
 Julia Warrean (13), 36 Shelley Road, Colchester, Essex, wants p.p.'s in England and France.
 Seana Cressley (13), 11 Gladstone Road, Colchester, Essex, wants p.p.'s in France and England.
 Clare Shaw (12), 6 Van Dyke Road, Colchester, Essex, wants p.p.'s anywhere.
 Patricia Anne Nappi, 35 Watney Road, London, S.W.14, wants p.p.'s in France or Germany.
 Deirdre Allen (15), 175 Highbury Quadrant, Highbury, London N.5, wants p.p.'s in America.
 Roani Brown (15), 36 Burnside Road, Rutherglen, Scotland, wants a girl p.p. in Canada.
 Alex Neagle (19), 122/60 Kleggway Court, Glasgow W.4, Scotland, wants p.p.'s anywhere, girls.
 Geoffrey Walker (17), 40 Stockton House, Thorpe Edge Estate, Beauford 2, Yorkshire, wants a girl p.p. age 16-20.
 James Walker (19), 40 Stockton House, Thorpe Edge Estate, Beauford 2, Yorkshire, wants p.p.'s.
 Lyn Orion, (16), 67 Irvine Road, Bloxwich, Walsall, Staffordshire, wants p.p.'s everywhere.
 Boreley Broli (16), 103 Prince Edward Drive, Harfield, Salisbury, Rhodesia, Africa, wants p.p. anywhere.
 Sharon Quigley (13), 2 Brook Terrace, Barton Road, Bury-Holme, Nr. Manchester, Lancs., wants p.p. anywhere abroad.
 Ingrid Hager (17), 7981 Weissensee, Sudetenweg 1, West Germany, wants p.p. England.
 Leif Vollen, Kirkeveien 60, Haslum, Baerum, Norway, wants p.p. anywhere.
 Wilma McHardy (15), 100 Dunmore Street, Kirkton, Dundee, Scotland, wants p.p. anywhere.
 Alberto Costi (19), Via Aurelia N 23, 58035, Grosseto, Italy, wants girl p.p. anywhere.
 Carol Baybird (14), Tremough Convent, Penryn, Cornwall, wants boy p.p. anywhere.
 Candy Jones (16), 101 Wedgewood Drive, Islington, Ontario, Canada, wants p.p. London.
 Deborah Ross (15), 99 Hyndland Road, Hyndland, Glasgow W.2, Scotland, wants boy p.p. anywhere.
 Carol Cowan (13), 2 Devon Way, Heston, Middlesex, wants p.p.'s everywhere.
 Mr. Sabail Mukhtar (20), 126 A Block 2 P.E.C.H.S., Karachi 29, West Pakistan, wants p.p. anywhere.
 Rita Fernandes, Av Epitacio Pessoa, 8941001, Ipanema, Guanabara, Brazil, wants p.p. anywhere.
 Peggy Yeghy (16), 1412 Brunckerhoff Ave., Utica, New York, U.S.A., wants p.p. anywhere.
 Tomoko Kotabe (18), 29 Ichome, Nakamura Minami, Nerima-ku, Tokyo, Japan, wants p.p. anywhere.
 Manuela Pettinelli (16), Via Peligrino Matteucci 94, 00154, Roma, Italy, wants p.p. Spain, Germany, Norway, Sweden and Denmark.
 Diana Evans (18), 34 Beakken Street, Maccooka, Brisbane, Australia, wants p.p.'s everywhere.
 Vivi Lund Nielsen (12), Glentevej 19st., Fredericia, Denmark, wants p.p. anywhere.
 Machiko Shimajima (16), 3-69, Nishi-Okubo, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo, Japan, wants p.p. England.
 Akira Tanaka (17), 2-2-chome, Yasuda-dori, Showa-ku, Nagoya, Japan, wants p.p. anywhere.
 Joanne Russo, 2308 Hughes Ave., Bronx, N.Y. 10458, U.S.A., wants p.p. anywhere.







BEATLE NEWS

Mal and Neil in Rishikesh

Mal Evans flew out to India before the Beatles went to make sure everything was ready for their visit. He returned to London on March 12th looking tremendously healthy and tanned. He flies out to India again around Easter to join Neil who left before him on March 15th.

BEATLES PRESS OFFICER

TONY BARROW, the man who has been in charge of Press and Publicity at NEMS Enterprises ever since he opened Brian Epstein's first London office in 1963, has opened up his own PR organisation in Mayfair this month.

Apart from being The Beatles' Press Officer, Tony Barrow has looked after a lot of other top pop names over the years—including people like Cilla Black. Now he will be Press Representative of many new stars as head of Tony Barrow International.

Says Tony: "Of course I shall continue to do exactly the same job for The Beatles and I am particularly pleased about this."

THUNDERSTORMS

The weather has been very hot while the Beatles have been in India. The Maharishi's Meditation Centre is situated on a plateau about 150 feet above the River Ganges. The buildings are built amongst trees and there is a lot of wildlife around. Peacocks strut around the grounds and one guest even reported that monkeys picked food from his plate while he was eating.

George celebrated his 25th birthday whilst he was in India and the Maharishi gave him a special gift to honour the occasion.

JOHN AND GEORGE COMPLETE COURSE

John and George plan to stay in Rishikesh until the Maharishi's present course ends on April 27th.

Paul was due to return to England at the end of March.

Immediately the course ends, George is going to join up with famous Indian sitar player Ravi Shankar to make a short film.

BIOGRAPHY

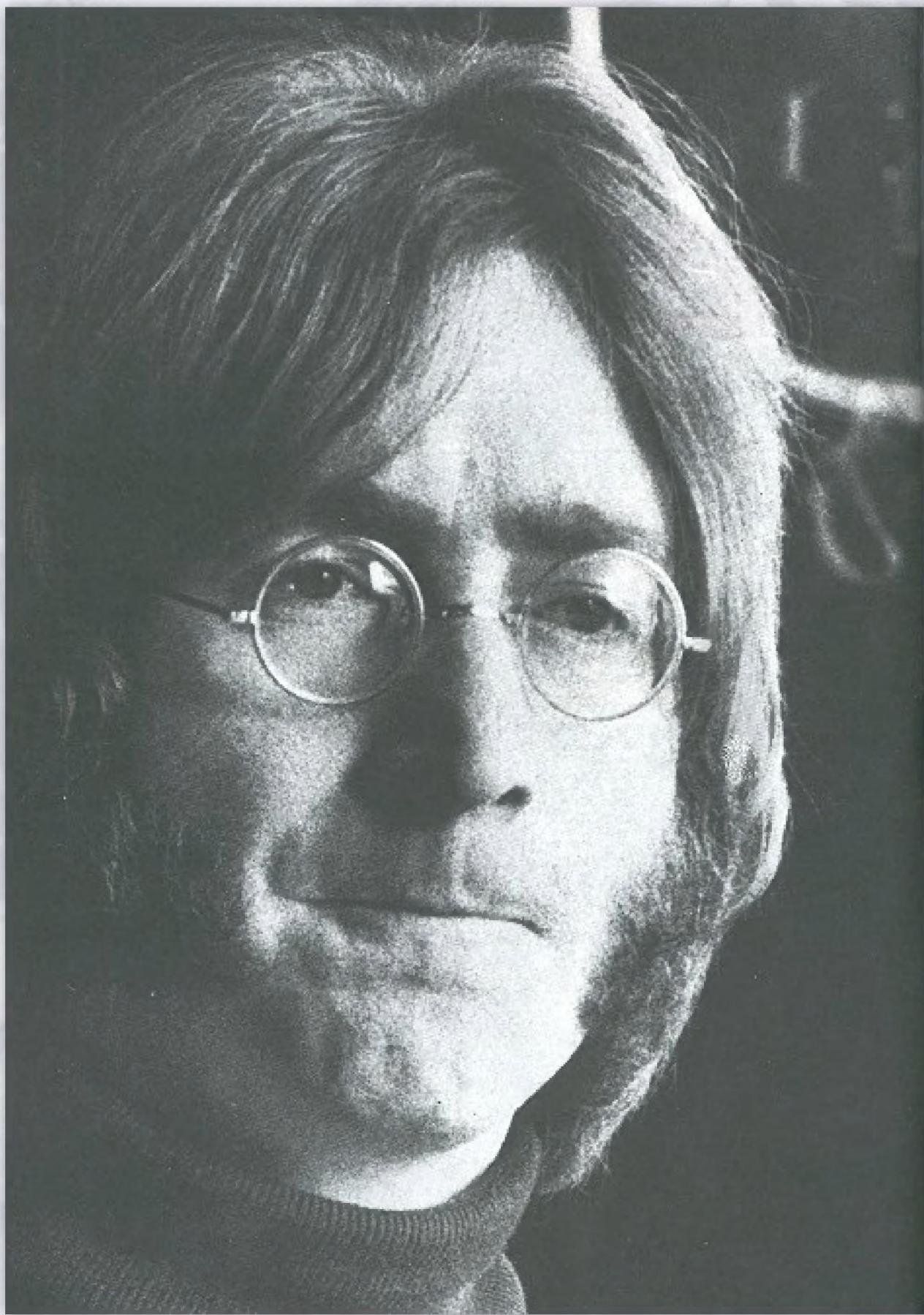
Author HUNTER DAVIES has now completed his work on what is described as "The First Authorised Biography of the Beatles". His book, due for publication in Britain, America and elsewhere throughout the world in October, is full of intricate details about the lives of John, Paul, George and Ringo plus their relatives, close friends and business associates. Hunter—writer of "Here We Go Round The Mulberry Bush"—has spent many months talking to just about everyone connected with The Beatles and their history. The book includes extensive sections where Jane Asher, The Beatles' wives, their parents and people like John's Aunt Mimi talk about The Beatles for the first time.

FIRST OF SEVERAL SPECIAL FEATURES ON THE HUNTER DAVIES BOOK WILL APPEAR IN THE MAY ISSUE OF THE BEATLES MONTHLY.

No Smoking with Guru

None of the Maharishi's students, which include Mia Farrow, her sister Prudence, Mike Love of the Beach Boys, Donovan, the Beatles and some forty other people smoke during the Maharishi's lectures. They refrain from doing so as a mark of respect to the guru. But apparently, it is quite all right to light up at any other time.

 Ringo still drinks the same beverage during recording breaks . . . tea.





Mal Evans takes off a 1957 rocker while Paul records the boogie bass track for "Lady Madonna".

APPLE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 25

duction company designed to bring forward new pop talent on to the 1968 chart scene. It will have its own record label and first releases are to be expected quite soon.

PANORAMA

I have not covered anything like the whole Apple panorama. But that's it up to now. As you read this page probably there's another important Apple conference

going on somewhere in London to plan the latest phase of the operation. The possibilities for Apple are unlimited. The Beatles see this as a vast concept, a massive environment, capable of making and selling all kinds of assorted goods and services. There is no reason why we should not be buying Apple electric shavers or Apple detergents before the year is out. Yes, Apple apples even!!! And what about Apple discotheques and Apple motor bikes? As

Paul himself has said "Everything is possible".

It's important to realise that these Apple ventures are all ADDITIONS to The Beatles' existing activities. The introduction of Apple doesn't change all the things The Beatles have been doing —it just gives them an impressive variety of new ideas to work on. Meanwhile they will still go on making records in the same way and they will continue to be associated very closely with NEMS Enterprises.

No. 57

APRIL
1968

The Beatles Book

